

## IN THE CLAIMS

1-29 (canceled)

30. (currently amended) A process comprising precipitating finely particulate, inorganic solids from solution, wherein the surfaces of the finely particulate, inorganic solids are coated with at least one additive containing at least one of a dispersing agent or a deflocculating agent to coated finely particulate, inorganic solids, wherein the proportion of the at least one additive is at most 80 wt.% of the coated finely particulate, inorganic solids, wherein the at least one additive is added to the starting solution, wherein the finely particulate, inorganic solid is selected from the group consisting of antimony oxide, chromium oxide, a metal nitrate, a metal halide, nickel titanate, lithium titanate, a metal ferrite, barium ferrite, manganese ferrite, nickel ferrite, a mixed oxide with a spinel structure, spinel green (Co,Ni,Zn)<sub>2</sub>TiO<sub>4</sub>, zinc/iron brown (ZnFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>), a molybdate and a borate. ~~precipitating fine particulate inorganic solid from solution, wherein the surface of the inorganic solid particle is coated with at least one additive containing at least one of a dispersing agent or a deflocculating agent to form a coated solid, wherein the proportion of the at least one additive is at most 80 wt.% of the coated solid, and wherein the at least one additive is added to the starting solution, and said process does not include the step of mixing conducted by ultrasonic mixing means.~~

31. (previously presented) The process according to claim 30, wherein the proportion of the additives is overall at most 40 wt.%.

32. (previously presented) The process according to claim 30, wherein the proportion of the additives is overall at most 30 wt.%.

33. (previously presented)The process according to claim 30, wherein the precipitation is carried out by combined addition of at least two starting solutions or by passing gas into a starting solution or by a hydrothermal treatment of a starting solution.

34. (previously presented)The process according to claim 30, wherein the particulate, inorganic solid is at least one member selected from the group consisting of a metal oxide, a metal hydroxide, hydrated titanium oxide, zinc oxide, zinc hydroxide, iron oxide, iron hydroxide, magnesium oxide, magnesium hydroxide, silicon dioxide, silicon hydroxide, aluminum oxide, aluminum hydroxide, zirconium oxide, zirconium hydroxide; a metal carbonate, a metal hydrogen carbonate, precipitated calcium carbonate, barium carbonate, lithium carbonate, strontium carbonate; a metal sulfate, barium sulfate, a precipitated calcium sulfate; a metal sulfide, zinc sulfide, cadmium sulfide, iron sulfide, tin sulfide; a metal phosphate, a metal hydrogen phosphate, zinc phosphate, aluminum phosphate, aluminum hydrogen phosphate; titanium phosphate, silicon aluminum phosphate; a metal titanate, barium titanate, strontium titanate, calcium titanate; a synthetic compound of a hydrotalcite structure; a zirconate, a silicate, an aluminate, a vanadate, a compound of all the aforementioned classes of substances in undoped or doped form, or a mixture thereof.

35. (currently amended) A process comprising precipitating finely particulate, ~~fine-particulate~~ inorganic solids ~~solid~~ from solution, wherein the surfaces ~~surface~~ of the finely particulate, inorganic solids ~~solid~~ are ~~particle~~ is coated with at least one additive containing at least one of a dispersing agent or a deflocculating agent to ~~form a~~ coated finely particulate, inorganic solids, ~~solid~~, wherein the proportion of the at least one additive is at most 80 wt.% of the coated finely particulate, ~~solid~~, and inorganic solids, wherein the at least one additive is added to the starting solution, wherein the finely particulate, inorganic solid is

selected from the group consisting of antimony oxide, chromium oxide, a metal nitrate, a metal halide, nickel titanate, lithium titanate, a metal ferrite, barium ferrite, manganese ferrite, nickel ferrite, a mixed oxide with a spinel structure, spinel green  $(\text{Co,Ni,Zn})_2\text{TiO}_4$ , zinc/iron brown  $(\text{ZnFe}_2\text{O}_4)$ , a molybdate, ~~a borate~~, a borate, a compound of all the aforementioned substances and classes of substances in undoped or doped form, or a mixture thereof.

36. (currently amended) A process according to claim ~~35~~ 30, wherein the dispersing agent or deflocculating agent comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of an alkali metal salt of an organic acid, an ammonium salt of an organic acid, an alkali metal salt or ammonium salt of an acrylate copolymer, a methacrylate copolymer, a polyphosphate, a poly(meth)acrylate, a polyether, an anionically modified polyether, a fatty alcohol polyglycol ether, a modified polyurethane, a non-ionic, modified fatty acid derivative and an anion-active aliphatic ester.

37. (currently amended) A process according to claim 30, wherein the ~~added~~ amount of the dispersing agent or deflocculating agent added is 0.01 to 40 wt.%, based on the finished coated product.

38. (currently amended) A process according to claim 37, wherein the added amount of the dispersing agent or deflocculating agent added is 0.01 to 30 wt.%, referring ~~referred~~ to the finely particulate, inorganic solids finished coated product.

39. (currently amended) A process according to claim ~~35~~ 30, comprising adding a second organic additive.

40. (previously presented) A process according to claim 39, wherein the second organic additive comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of a carboxylic acid, a soap, a metal soap, an alcohol, pentaerythritol, neopentyl glycol, a

polyalcohol, a polyglycol, a polyethylene glycol ether, an organic ester, an organic sulfonic acid, an alkali salt of an organic sulfonic acid, an ammonium salt of an organic sulfonic acid, an organic amide, an organic amine, an alkali salt of an organic phosphoric acid ester, an ammonium salt of organic phosphoric acid ester, a fatty acid ester, an a fatty acid amide.

41. (previously presented) A process according to claim 39, wherein the added amount of the second, organic additive is 0.01 to 60 wt.%, referred to the finished coated product.

42. (currently amended) A process according to claim 41, wherein the added amount of the second, organic additive is 0.01 to 40 wt.%, referring ~~referred~~ to the finely particulate, inorganic solids ~~finished-coated product~~.

43. (currently amended) A process according to claim 42, wherein the added amount of the second, organic additive is 0.1 to 20 wt.%, referring to the coated finely particulate, inorganic solids ~~referred to the finished-coated product~~.

44. (currently amended) A process comprising precipitating finely particulate, fine particulate inorganic solid particles ~~solid~~ from solution, wherein the surfaces ~~surface~~ of the finely particulate, inorganic solids ~~are solid particle~~ is coated with at least one additive containing at least one of a dispersing agent or a deflocculating agent to form coated solid particles, and a ~~coated solid~~, wherein the proportion of the at least one additive is at most 80 wt.% of the coated solid, and wherein the at least one additive is added to the starting solution, comprising adding a defoaming agent during precipitation.

45. (previously presented) A process according to claim 44, wherein the added amount of the defoaming agent is up to 10 wt.%.

46. (previously presented) A process according to claim 44, wherein the added amount of the defoaming agent is up to 0.01 to 5 wt.%.

47. (currently amended) A process according to claim 44 ~~claim 30~~, wherein the coated solid particles ~~coated, finely particulate, inorganic solids~~ have a mean grain size  $d_{50}$  of 0.1 to 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .

48. (currently amended) A process according to claim 46, wherein the coated solid particles ~~coated, finely particulate, inorganic solids~~ have a mean grain size  $d_{50}$  of 0.1 to 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

49. (currently amended) A process according to claim 46, wherein the coated solid particles ~~coated, finely particulate, inorganic solids~~ have a mean grain size  $d_{50}$  of 0.2 to 5  $\mu\text{m}$ .

50. (previously presented) A process comprising precipitating fine particulate inorganic solid from solution, wherein the surface of the inorganic solid particle is coated with at least one additive containing at least one of a dispersing agent or a deflocculating agent to form a coated solid, wherein the proportion of the at least one additive is at most 80 wt.% of the coated solid, and wherein the at least one additive is added to the starting solution, and wherein the coated, finely particulate, inorganic solids have a mean crystallite size of  $< 200 \text{ nm}$ .

51. (previously presented) A process comprising precipitating fine particulate inorganic solid from solution, wherein the surface of the inorganic solid particle is coated with at least one additive containing at least one of a dispersing agent or a deflocculating agent to form a coated solid, wherein the proportion of the at least one additive is at most 80 wt.% of the coated solid, and wherein the at least one additive is added to the starting solution, and wherein the coated, finely particulate, inorganic solids have a mean crystallite size of 1 to 120 nm.

52. (previously presented) A process comprising precipitating fine particulate inorganic solid from solution, wherein the surface of the inorganic solid particle is coated with at least one additive containing at least one of a dispersing agent or a deflocculating agent to form a coated solid, wherein the proportion of the at least one additive is at most 80 wt.% of the coated

solid , wherein the at least one additive is added to the starting solution, and wherein the coated, finely particulate, inorganic solids have a mean crystallite size of 1 to 80 nm.

53. (previously presented) A process comprising precipitating fine particulate inorganic solid from solution, wherein the surface of the inorganic solid particle is coated with at least one additive containing at least one of a dispersing agent or a deflocculating agent to form a coated solid, wherein the proportion of the at least one additive is at most 80 wt.% of the coated solid, wherein the at least one additive is added to the starting solution wherein the particulate, inorganic solid is at least one member selected from the group consisting of titanium dioxide, hydrated titanium oxide, zinc oxide, zinc hydroxide, iron oxide, iron hydroxide, magnesium oxide, silicon dioxide, silicon hydroxide, aluminum oxide, aluminum hydroxide, zirconium oxide, zirconium hydroxide; antimony oxide, chromium oxide, a metal carbonate, a metal hydrogen carbonate, a metal nitrate, a metal halide, a metal sulfate, a metal sulfide, a metal phosphate, a metal hydrogen phosphate, a metal titanate, a metal ferrite, a mixed oxide with spinel structure, a synthetic compound of a hydrotalcite structure; a zirconate, a silicate, an aluminate, a vanadate, a chromate, a molybdate, a borate, or a mixture thereof, wherein the particulate, inorganic solid may be doped or undoped.

54. (currently amended) The process according to claim 39 ~~53~~, wherein the proportion of the additives is overall at most 40 wt.%.

55. (currently amended) The process according to claim 54 ~~53~~, wherein the proportion of the additives is overall at most 30 wt.%.

56. (currently amended) The process according to claim 35 ~~53~~, wherein the precipitation is carried out by combined addition of at least two starting solutions or by passing gas into a starting solution or by a hydrothermal treatment of a starting solution.

57. (currently amended) A process according to claim ~~37~~ 53, wherein the dispersing agent or deflocculating agent comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of an alkali metal salt of an organic acid, an ammonium salt of an organic acid, an alkali metal salt or ammonium salt of an acrylate copolymer, a methacrylate copolymer, a polyphosphate, a poly(meth)acrylate, a polyether, an anionically modified polyether, a fatty alcohol polyglycol ether, a modified polyurethane, a non-ionic, modified fatty acid derivative and an anion-active aliphatic ester.

58. (currently amended) A process according to claim ~~39~~ 53, wherein the added amount of the dispersing agent or deflocculating agent is 0.01 to 40 wt.%, referring to the coated finely particulate, inorganic solids ~~based on the finished coated product.~~

59. (currently amended) A process according to claim 58, wherein the added amount of the dispersing agent or deflocculating agent is 0.01 to 30 wt.%, referring to the finely particulate, inorganic solids ~~referred to the finished coated product.~~

60. (currently amended) A process according to claim ~~36~~ 53, comprising adding a second organic additive.

61. (previously presented) A process according to claim 60, wherein the second organic additive comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of a carboxylic acid, a soap, a metal soap, an alcohol, pentaerythritol, neopentyl glycol, a polyalcohol, a polyglycol, a polyethylene glycol ether, an organic ester, an organic sulfonic acid, an alkali salt of an organic sulfonic acid, an ammonium salt of an organic sulfonic acid, an organic amide, an organic amine, an alkali salt of an organic phosphoric acid ester, an ammonium salt of organic phosphoric acid ester, a fatty acid ester, an a fatty acid amide.

62. (currently amended) A process according to claim 60, wherein the added amount of the second, organic additive is 0.01 to 60 wt.%, referring to the coated finely particulate, inorganic solids referred to the finished coated product.

63. (currently amended) A process according to claim 62, wherein the added amount of the second organic ~~second, organic~~ additive is 0.01 to 40 wt.%, referring to the coated finely particulate, inorganic solids referred to the finished coated product.

64. (currently amended) A process according to claim 63, wherein the added amount of the second organic ~~second, organic~~ additive is 0.1 to 20 wt.%, referring referred to the finely particulate, inorganic solids finished coated product.

65. (currently amended) A process according to claim ~~50~~ 53, further comprising adding a defoaming agent during precipitation.

66. (previously presented) A process according to claim 65, wherein the added amount of the defoaming agent is up to 10 wt.%.

67. (previously presented) A process according to claim 65, wherein the added amount of the defoaming agent is up to 0.01 to 5 wt.%.

68. (currently amended) A process according to claim ~~40~~ 53, wherein the coated coated, finely particulate, inorganic solids have a mean grain size  $d_{50}$  of 0.1 to 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .

69. (previously presented) A process according to claim 67, wherein the coated, finely particulate, inorganic solids have a mean grain size  $d_{50}$  of 0.1 to 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

70. (previously presented) A process according to claim 67, wherein the coated, finely particulate, inorganic solids have a mean grain size  $d_{50}$  of 0.2 to 5  $\mu\text{m}$ .

71. (currently amended) ~~A process according to claim 53, A process comprising precipitating finely particulate, inorganic solids from solution, wherein the surfaces of the finely~~



inorganic solids are coated with at least one additive containing at least one of a dispersing agent or a deflocculating agent to form coated solids, wherein the proportion of the at least one additive is at most 80 wt.% of the coated solids, wherein the at least one additive is added to the starting solution wherein the finely particulate, inorganic solid comprise at least one member selected from the group consisting of titanium dioxide, hydrated titanium oxide, zinc oxide, zinc hydroxide, iron oxide, iron hydroxide, magnesium oxide, silicon dioxide, silicon hydroxide, aluminum oxide, aluminum hydroxide, zirconium oxide, zirconium hydroxide; antimony oxide, chromium oxide, a metal carbonate, a metal hydrogen carbonate, a metal nitrate, a metal halide, a metal sulfate, a metal sulfide, a metal phosphate, a metal hydrogen phosphate, a metal titanate, a metal ferrite, a mixed oxide with spinel structure, a synthetic compound of a hydrotalcite structure; a zirconate, a silicate, an aluminate, a vanadate, a chromate, a molybdate, a borate, or a mixture thereof, wherein the particulate, inorganic solid may be doped or undoped, wherein the coated, finely particulate, inorganic solids have a mean crystallite size of < 200 nm.

72. (currently amended) ~~A process according to claim 53,~~ A process comprising precipitating finely particulate, inorganic solids from solution, wherein the surfaces of the finely particle, inorganic solids are coated with at least one additive containing at least one of a dispersing agent or a deflocculating agent to form coated solids, wherein the proportion of the at least one additive is at most 80 wt.% of the coated solids, wherein the at least one additive is added to the starting solution wherein the finely particulate, inorganic solids comprise at least one member selected from the group consisting of titanium dioxide, hydrated titanium oxide, zinc oxide, zinc hydroxide, iron oxide, iron hydroxide, magnesium oxide, silicon dioxide, silicon hydroxide, aluminum oxide, aluminum hydroxide, zirconium oxide, zirconium hydroxide; antimony oxide, chromium oxide, a metal carbonate, a metal hydrogen carbonate, a metal

nitrate, a metal halide, a metal sulfate, a metal sulfide, a metal phosphate, a metal hydrogen phosphate, a metal titanate, a metal ferrite, a mixed oxide with spinel structure, a synthetic compound of a hydrotalcite structure; a zirconate, a silicate, an aluminate, a vanadate, a chromate, a molybdate, a borate, or a mixture thereof, wherein the particulate, inorganic solid may be doped or undoped, wherein the coated, finely particulate, inorganic solids have a mean crystallite size of 1 to 120 nm.

73. (currently amended) ~~A process according to claim 53,~~ A process comprising precipitating finely particulate, inorganic solids from solution, wherein the surfaces of the finely particle, inorganic solids comprise at least one additive containing at least one of a dispersing agent or a deflocculating agent to form coated solids, wherein the proportion of the at least one additive is at most 80 wt.% of the coated solid, wherein the at least one additive is added to the starting solution wherein the particulate, inorganic solid is at least one member selected from the group consisting of titanium dioxide, hydrated titanium oxide, zinc oxide, zinc hydroxide, iron oxide, iron hydroxide, magnesium oxide, silicon dioxide, silicon hydroxide, aluminum oxide, aluminum hydroxide, zirconium oxide, zirconium hydroxide; antimony oxide, chromium oxide, a metal carbonate, a metal hydrogen carbonate, a metal nitrate, a metal halide, a metal sulfate, a metal sulfide, a metal phosphate, a metal hydrogen phosphate, a metal titanate, a metal ferrite, a mixed oxide with spinel structure, a synthetic compound of a hydrotalcite structure; a zirconate, a silicate, an aluminate, a vanadate, a chromate, a molybdate, a borate, or a mixture thereof, wherein the particulate, inorganic solid may be doped or undoped, wherein the coated, finely particulate, inorganic solids have a mean crystallite size of 1 to 80 nm.